

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of the claims replaces and supersedes all previous listings.

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled)

18. (New) A method for producing a label in the form of a layer composite, the method comprising:
 - (a) covering a transparent plastic film layer with a metallization layer having flat sides, wherein the entire area of said film layer serves as a substrate of said metallization layer,
 - (b) flatly covering said metallization layer with a covering layer such that said metallization layer is arranged between said film layer and said covering layer, and wherein said metallization layer is completely covered on both of its flat sides,
 - (c) defining a peripheral edge of the label to be produced from said layer composite and producing a strip-shaped cutout extending at least through said metallization layer and along a margin of said peripheral edge, and
 - (d) covering at least said cutout with a sealing strip extending at least over the thickness of said metallization layer with the sealing strip extending into said cutout.
19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein said layer composite is produced in such a manner that the film layer which serves as a substrate also forms the plastic film layer or the covering layer.
20. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein a strip-shaped cutout is produced in said metallization layer which extends to the peripheral edge of said layer composite defining the label contour.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said strip-shaped cutout is produced by removing said metallization layer mechanically or by lifting off the metallization layer by means of an adhesive tape.

22. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein a gap is produced in the metallization layer, wherein said gap is offset inward with respect to the peripheral edge defining the label contour and wherein said gap forms the strip-shaped cutout.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said gap is engraved into the metallization layer or is produced by punching, or by removing the metallization layer by means of microwave energy or corona discharge or fluid or solid particle jet treatment or brush treatment or etching.

24. (New) A label in the form of a layer composite comprising a transparent plastic film layer (23c) having peripheral edges, a covering layer (25c) covering said film layer (23c) flatly and a metallization layer (31c) having flat sides and peripheral edges arranged between said film layer (23c) and said covering layer (25c), said metallization layer (31c) being covered over its complete area on both its flat sides and, at or close to at least one portion of said peripheral edge (35c) of said film layer (23c) defining a label contour, having a marginal edge (37c) which is covered by a sealing strip (41c) extending at least over the thickness of the metallization layer (31c), wherein said metallization layer (31c), runs along said sealing strip at a distance from the peripheral edge (35c) of the film layer (23c) defining the label contour and has a gap (45) forming the marginal edge (37c) to be sealed and said gap is filled by the sealing strip (41c).

25. (New) The label of claim 24, wherein said gap (45) is formed by a plurality of non-cohering regions of the metallization layer.

26. (New) The label of claim 24, wherein said gap (45) is formed as a punch cut that displaces material, or is engraved into the metallization layer, or is produced by

removing the metallization layer by means of microwave energy or corona discharge or fluid or solid particle jet treatment or brush treatment or etching.

27. (New) The label of claim 24, wherein said covering layer is formed as a plastic film layer (25c).

28. (New) The label of claim 27, wherein said gap (45) extends through the metallization layer (31c) and at least partly into one (25c) of the two film layers.

29. (New) The label of claim 28, wherein said gap (45) extends completely through said one film layer (25c), and said one film layer is the second film layer.

30. (New) The label of claim 24, wherein said sealing strip (41c) is part of a printing ink layer or of a connecting layer (33c) or of an adhesive layer intended to affix the label to an object (1).

31. (New) A label in the form of a layer composite comprising a transparent plastic film layer (23b), a further plastic film layer (25b) covering said transparent film layer (23) flatly and forming a covering layer, and a metallization layer (31) arranged between said transparent film layer (23) and said further plastic film layer (25b; 27b), the metallization layer (31) being covered over its complete areas on both its flat sides and, at or close to at least one portion of a peripheral edge (35b) of said transparent film layer (23b) defining a label contour, having a marginal edge (37b) which is covered by a sealing strip (41b) extending at least over the thickness of said metallization layer (31b),

wherein between said two film layers (23b, 25b), there is arranged a connecting layer (33b), wherein said connecting layer is selected from the group consisting of a laminating adhesive layer or a laminating varnish layer or contact adhesive layer, and wherein said connecting layer extends beyond the marginal edges of both the metallization layer (31b) and the two film layers (23b, 25b), and wherein said

connecting layer reaches over the marginal edges of the two film layers (23b, 25b) to form said sealing strip (41b).

32. (New) The label of claim 31, wherein said sealing strip (41) extends substantially along the entire peripheral edge of the label (11).

33. (New) The label of claim 31, wherein a printing ink layer (29) is arranged in said layer composite between said film layer (23) and said metallization layer (31) or on the side of the transparent plastic film layer (23) facing away from the metallization layer (31), wherein said printing ink layer forms a decorative imprint.

34. (New) The label of claim 31, wherein said label is an adhesive label, said metallization layer (31) being arranged in said layer composite between said transparent plastic film layer (23) and an adhesive layer (27) that is a contact adhesive layer used to affix the label to an object (1).

35. (New) The label of claim 34, wherein said plastic film layer (23) forming the outermost layer of the label (11) and facing away from the adhesive layer (27) is formed as a stretched plastic film layer that can be shrunk back when heated, and wherein said label (11) forms a battery label that encases the peripheral surface of a substantially cylindrical body (1) of a dry battery and has edges {19, 21} projecting axially beyond the body (11) of the dry battery that can be shrunk onto the end faces of said battery.

36. (New) The label of claim 35, wherein said plastic film layer (23) is stretched in a direction which runs in a peripheral direction relative to a battery body, and wherein said sealing strip (41) extends at least along a portion of the peripheral edge of said label (11) that extends in said stretching direction.